

New York Times

15 Jan 59

THE NEW YORK TIMES, THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

U. S. BUDGET AIDE CAUTIONS M'ELROY

**Secret Stans Note Revealed
—Military Is Advised Not
to Ask Fund Rises**

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14 (UPI)—President Eisenhower's budget chief has warned Federal officials against going over the President's head and asking Congress for more military funds than the new budget provides.

The edict was laid down in a secret memorandum which Maurice H. Stans, Budget Director, sent two weeks ago to Neil H. McElroy, Defense Secretary. It ruled out both public and secret bids to Congress for more money.

While the memo did not threaten reprisals, it said "Executive Branch personnel are

expected to support the President in his budget recommendations."

The memorandum, dated Dec. 31, fell into the hands of Representative Daniel J. Flood, Democrat of Pennsylvania, a member of the House subcommittee on Defense Appropriations. He made it available to a reporter.

Mr. Flood denounced Mr. Stans' directive as a "shocking" attempt to impose a "gag-rule" on defense witnesses. He called for an immediate inquiry into what he termed this "latest affront" to Congressional dignity.

The Stans memorandum said in part:

"It is expected that witnesses will carefully avoid volunteering views differing from the budget, either on the record or off the record."

The memo said direct Congressional questions must be answered frankly. But it said any witness "who feels that he must set forth a personal view inconsistent with the President's budget" should point out that

President Eisenhower's decision was reached "from his over-all perspective as the head of the Government, and in the light of over-riding national policy."

"The witness should make it clear that his personal comments are not to be construed as a request for additional funds," it added.

The wording of the memorandum indicated that similar directives may have been sent to heads of other Federal agencies in an effort to present a solid Administration front in the impending battle with Congress.